RUDRA SHIVA AND SADA SHIVA

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INTRODUCTION

Many people consider Shiva as Bhagavan. In one sense this is true. Because the Godness of Shiva is under the godness of Vishnu. That is in one situation Shiva and Vishnu are identical, but in another situation Shiva is different from Vishnu.

In the latter case Shiva has to render services under the direction of Vishnu. When Shiva is free from Maya Illusory energy of Vishnu or Krishna (he is equal to Vishnu) .But when Shiva is connected with Maya, i.e. Durga Devi and destroy he then contains tamas guna and as such under the direction of Krishna proceed to destroy the 14 plannets.

As a destroyer Shiva is the Avatar of Tama-guna. But he also give religious lessons to the people for acquiring devotion. It may be said in a Kalpa (one day of Lord Brahma which is equal to 432 crore years) a best man may become Shiva, the destroyer of the universe.

But if in some Kalpa such a man is not available the god Himself take the form of Shiva and conduct the destruction of the universe. This Shiva is called Rudra Shiva. On the other hand within the Baikentha there is another Shiva who is known as Sada-Shiva. He is not a Avatar of any gunas. He is beyond any gunas and like Narayana is the vilas-murti of Sree Krishna. Hence it may be said that Rudra Shiva(destroyer of the universe) is a part of a shadow of the Sada Shiva. Hence Sada Shiva is superior to Brahma and is more or less identical with Vishnu.

RUDRA SHIVA

APPEARANCE OF RUDRA SHIVA

Rudra Shiva can be said as a part of shadow of Sada Shiva. That boast of Sada Shiva accepts tama-guna and appear in this world in the name of Rudra Shiva. He is the destroyer of material world. He does so combined with the Durga Devi(Maya Shakti of Krishna). In other words, Rudra is a special type of murti of Shiva.Brahma had four sons - Sanat,Sanatan, Sanandana and Sanatkumara.Brahma ordered them to create prajas(i.e, all living entities) .But they did not comply His order. As a result Brahma became very much angry. At that time a Kumara (son) came out of the Vru of Brahma.This Kumara was very strong. But after his creation he cried continuously. And as such his name becomes Rudra.

FORMS OF RUDRA SHIVA.

There are 11 forms of Rudra Shiva: Ajaikpat, Ahibrabhu, Viru-pakbha, Raibuta, Hara, Deva-shrestha,

Traimbaka, Sabitta, Joyanta, Pinaki and Aparajita. Of these 11, almost all Rudras have five heads, three eyes and ten hands. Again there are 11 Rudranis (wives of the 11 Rudras): Dhili,Shi, Driti, Rasala, Uma, Nisut, Sarpi,Ela, Ambika, Erabati, Swadha,Diksha.

RESIDENCES OF RUDRA SHIVA

Rudra Shiva generally stays in the mountain Kailas and Kashidhama .From Srimad Bhagvada (S.B 10.40.17) it is seen that Kailas Parvata is situated in the south of Sumeru Parvata. It is a Parvata with the boundary of Tibet. Here is the Manda-Sarovara and the king of the Jakkas, Kuvera resides here. Not only so, due to the prayer of Kuvera, Hara(Shiva/ Mahadeva) and Parvati also reside here. In addition to these in order to protect the Mathura Dhama there are four kshetrapal or protecter who are nothing but Rudra-shiva. They are: in the east is Schita-shetto,in the west Bhuteshvra , in the north Gokarneshsara, and in the south Vacraswara. Again in Puridhama there are five Shivas who are serving as darwan of Jagannath deva. Of them Kapalmuchan Mahadeva or Shiva is the main / leader. This Mahadeva is at standby position in the southern side of the Mandir. There is a proverb that Brahma had five heads before. Due to some reason Mahadeva had cut a head, But the head remained at the hand of Shiva.He travelled different places but could not separate the head from his hand.At last he took shelter on Sree Jaganath deva then Mahadeva could relieved of the sins of killing Bramah (Brahmin).This is why he bear the name of the name of Kapalmuchan and remains in Puridhama.

WORSHIP OF RUDRA SHIVA

For worshiping the Rudra-Shiva Dhutura,Akanda and Karabi flowers are most necessary .Another name of Rudra-Shiva is Ashutosh-i.e.,he is satisfied very easily. If he is bathed by Ganges water with Belpatra he becomes glad and at that time he sanctions any benediction prayed to him by his devotees. This is why also he is called Ashutosha.

Another name of Rudra-Shiva is Pashupati. This does not mean that he is the king of pashus (animals). The term pashu means atma (jiva).Thus Pashupati means that he is the saviour of the Jivas.Rudra Shiva has a large number of followers,disciples and devotees. But of all the followers Nandi and Vringi are the main .It may be stated here that His wife Sati was dihonoured at the Jnaga of Prajapati,Daksha(her father).As a result she left her body.Hearing this Shiva became very angry and in order to punish Daksha (his father in law)

he sent Birabhadra who seperated the head of Daksha from his body. The story is stated as follows:

Prajapati Daksha was a son of Brahma. He was envious to Shiva.The cause was being the guna-avatar of God and having a direct connection with Paramatma,Shiva was given higher status in jnaga of the Devatas. At that time Daksha came there. Shiva was given a Juaga of the Seratas. Daksha came but inspite of his daughter's husband Shiva did not stand from his seat and welcome him. As a result Daksha became very angry with Shiva and decided to take revenge whenever occasion comes at him. At one time he arranged a big jnaga and invited all the– Risis, Devatas except Shiva. Sati went to her father's house inspite of no invitation.Daksha saw Sati and began to curse Shiva. Hearing this Sati left her body. As a result, Daksha lost his head ,which was consequently replaced by the head of a He-goat .After that Shiva came to the place of Jnaga (spiritual sacrifice) and he lift the body of Sati on his

shoulder and began to tremendous dance and was moving here and there. As a result the three worlds (tri-bhuvan) was about to destroy. Then at the earnest request of the Devatas, Vishnu began to cutoff different parts of the body of Sati with the help of His Sudarshan Chakra. In this way 51 Pithas were created where parts of the body of Sati fell down.

DAKSHA CURSED RUDRA SHIVA

Prajapati Daksha cursed Shiva that if anyone becomes a devotee and perform Shiva - brata, he will be treated as a Pashandi (a very sinful person). Remembering this curse some Vaisnavas do not

worship and perform Shiva Chaturdashi Brata (S.B 2.2. 28). But in Hari Bhakti Bilasa, it has been shown that vaisnavas should worship as well as perform Shiva's Brata (13-186-197). Because Shiva is a great Vaisnava and through His conversion with Parvati Devi devotees came to know many important news /information about the Supreme Personality of Godhead Krishna and others.

A SNAKE NAMED PABITRA ON HIS NECK

A snake is seen in bending position on the neck of Rudra Shiva. It is said that a snake named Pabitra medidate on the Lord Shiva for 10,000 years. Shiva became very pleased on him and asked what is his necessity. Then the snake prayed to Him that he wants to be remain in the neck of Shiva in a bending position forever. Shiva sanctioned his prayer and as such that Pabitra could get a chance to remain around neck of the Lord.

DRESSES AND WEAPONS

Rudra Shiva also wear garlands made of rudraksha in His neck. He smears his body with ashes and wears the skin of the tiger. Weapon Trishull and Pashupat remain at his hand. The main weapon of Rudra Shiva is called Shiva jar which He used in the battle between Him and Krishna in connection with the marriage between Usha (daughter of Banasura, and Anirudha (grandson of Krishna and son of Pradumna).

SADA SHIVA- A GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Sada Shiva is different from Rudra Shiva. He comes out of Sankarshandeva. He is a devotee of Bhagavan Ramchandra [His source is the snake Ananta deva and as such he bends his neck with his guru Anantadeva. Anantadeva is a different form of Sankarshandeva.

He is not influenced by Maya, rathers, if necessary can control her(Ganga) on His head. Since Ganga starts from the foot of the Lord Vishnu, it can be safely said that he is bearing the foot of Vishnu.

RESIDENCE AND HIS OTHER FEATURES

We know that our universe is composed of 14 plannets. All these planets are controlled by Maya Devi Durga. Now above these 14 plannets, there is a planet which is called Sada-Shiva Dhama. Its first part is darkful. After crossing this darkful part one will see the colourful part where Sada Shiva resides. He is called Mahadeva here. The colour of His body is as white as the colour of this body is as white as camphor. He has three eyes, he is naked and on the fore-head there is burning half-moon. In His hand, there is a Trishul; smears His body with ashes; wear garland made by bones of the pure vaisnavas. Sri Gouri sits on His lap and render services to Him.

WORSHIP BY PURE DEVOTEES

As a dearest devotee of Krishna devotees, pure devotees worship Sada-Shiva. He is one of the twelve Mahajan. Sree Sada Shiva is dearest to Vishnu. And as such of his devotee worship him, Vishnu –becomes very glad. God Himself said that worship and devotion to my devotees is more respectful than to My worship and devotion. In this sense devotees of Vishnu also worship Sada Shiva .But if a man worship only the Sada Shiva disregarding the worship as well as respect to Krishna that would be regarded as deception towards the Almighty Krishna. Here the so called devotee of Sada Shiva will not get the blessing of the Sada-shiva . Because he himself worship the Supreme Personality of God head Krishna and his gurudev Sankarshandeva is an expansion of Krishna only.

The phrase. "The worship of my devotee is better and in a high position does not mean that the

devotee is the Supreme Personality of Godhead and God Himself is his worshiper. The phrase actually denotes that first of all you can worship the devotee after worshiping the lord. After worshiping Krishna with different foodstuffs one can worship a pure devotee with those foodstuffs which were rendered to Krishna before.Where by worshipping of Shiva love for Krishna do not increase that image of Shiva has no quality of a vaisnavas i.e, he should not be considered as a vaisnava.

It is said in the Chaitanya Bhagavata --

ata eva sarbargre Sree Krishna

puji tabe

prite Shiva puji, pujibe sarva debe (C.Bh)

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SADA SHIVA AND RUDRA SHIVA

There are some differences between the two types of Shivas as follows.

(i) First of all Sadashiva emerged from the Sankarshandeva. Rudra Shiva aroused from the both Vrugagal of Brahma.

(ii)Secondly- Sada Shiva is the angsha (totality) of Rudra Shiva.That is Rudra Shiva is a part of Sada Shiva. Sri Chaitanya Charitamrta states:

ananta brahmande rudra sada shiver angsha

gun-avatar teho sarvadeva ava-tangsa

(iii)Thirdly Sadashiva is independant of Maya; can control the Maya if necessary. In other words

Sada Shiva is beyond the three illusions-satta,raja and tama and is not under the control of Maya. On the otherhand Rudra-Shiva involves tama-gunas. His fellow is Maya or Mahakali .

It is stated in the chaitanya-charita-mrta

nij angshe kala Krishna tama-guna angikare

sanharathe maya sange rudra rupa dhare

maya-sange bikare, Rudra-vinna avisna rupa

jiva tatta hoya, nahe Krishnara svatabde

(c.c. Madhya 20/307-308)

Fourthly Sada-Shiva renders devotional services to the Lord Vishnu always.He resides in a plannet called Shiva-loka which is within the Baikuntha. On the otherhand Rudra-Shiva is the main deity of tama-guna and his this form extinguished at the time of great dissolution. He remains in Kailas and Kashidham of this universe until the dissolution.

5) Lastly as far as material world is concerned Rudra-Shiva usually live in Kailas and Kashidhama. On the other hand Sada-Shiva is a great Vaisnava. And as such he is engaged as a Kshetrapal of Vrindavan.He is staying is Vrindavan with a desire to see the Rasbihari Krishna by meditating the gopies.

STORIES RELATING TO RUDRA SHIVA

There are many stories regarding Rudra Shiva. Rudra Shiva is easily satisfied to His devotees. As such He is soft to give benedictions to His devotees.As a result in almost all cases demons and rakhashas usually medidate on Him and take sometimes unusual and even rare benediction from Him.He is so much merciful that sometimes without considering the consequences, He gives benedictions to the demons and rakshasas . Sometime even His life became endangered due to giving unusual benedictions. At that time He had to take shelter to save his life even. We mention here a story of such type. An asura named Brikasur(alternatively known as bhasha sur) wanted to increase his strength. As such he meditate on Rudra-Shiva for many years. Shiva was satisfied for his meditation and arrived in front of the asura and asked whatever he would want He will sanction the same.

The asura wanted a benediction that if he put his right hand on anyone the latter will at once be extinguished. Without thinking the consequences, Rudra Shiva sanctioned it. This asura was full of tama-guna. And as such he became very busy to test the validity of the benediction. There was none but Shiva only. As a result he thought let me put my right hand on the head of Shiva and see the result thereof . Hearing this Shiva began to run away to save His life. But the asura also began to follow Him. At first Shiva went to Brahma and told Him all and to save His life. But Brahma said that it is not possible for Him to save the life of Shiva, but advised Him to go to Vishnu, for life. Vishnu heard all the things and gave Shiva assurance for His life. Brikasura, in the meantime, following Shiva also arrived to Vishnu , He(Vishnu) asked the Asura what is the matter that you are following Shiva continuously. Brikasur described all and the benediction of Shiva. Hearing this is Vishnu told the Asura that Shiva takes gaza, bhang(two narcotics) and so on which makes Him sometimes mad. Again Shiva travels here and there and His companions are ghosts and pretas. Hence, what is truth of His words? Why have you come here? You could place your right hand on your head and test the validity of the benediction.Now being influenced by the maya shakti of

Vishnu. Brikasur puts his right hand on his own head. At once he vanished. In this way Vishnu saved the life of Shiva.

We mention here another example.

Banasur was the son of Bali Maharaj I.e he was the great grandson of Prahlada Maharaja. Banasur was a great devotee of Rudra Shiva. He was very much satisfied for the devotion of Banasura and gave him a benediction that Banasur would have 1000 hands with great strength and vigour.

Banasura had a daughter. Her name was Usha. Once she dreamt Aniruddha, grandson of Krishna, She loved him. Usha brought Anirunddha to her with the help of her friend Chitralekha. They married each other. When Banasur came to know this he sent Aniruddha into jail. Hearing this Krishna declared war against Banasura. Banasura requested Shiva to fight in favour of him. Without thinking the consequences of war against the Supreme Lord Krishna Rudra Shiva joined in the war. Then at one time Shiva threw Pasupat and Krishna threw Sudarshan, Sudarshan Chakra foiled the Pasupat. At last Shiva applied Shiv-Jar weapon which creates severe cold. The latter weapon of Krishna vanished the former's possible consequences. In the meantime Krishna was cutting the hands of Banasur with the help of this Sundarshan Chakra. He (Krishna) had cut 996 hands of Banasura. At that time Rudra Shiva fervently prayed and requested Krishna to retain the other four hands of Banasura. Krishna did so because Shiva is a good devotee of Him. In this way Rudra Shiva had to face many difficulties for His benedictions given to Banasura.

STORY RELATING TO SADA SHIVA

We have said earlier that Sada Shiva wear garlands made of the bones of pure devotees of the Lord Krishna. He is the best Vaisnava. As such He reminds the people for devotion unto the lotus

feet of Krishna. He prefers everything of a pure devotee. In this connection we can mention a story relating to Sada-Shiva.

After the great war of Kurukshetra, at one time Yudhisthir Maharaj, took permission from Krishna to perform Ynaga called Ashamedha. Arjun was given the duty to protect the Horse meant for the jnaga, The Horse was free and it was moving here and there, from one kingdom down to another kingdom and so on. At one time the Horse reached the Kingdom of Maurdhaja. The King saw and came to know from his spy that the Pandavas are performing Ashameda Ynaga.

This king and his son Hansadhaja were pure devotees of Krishna. The king then decided to arrest the horse considering when war would begin with Arjuna, Krishna would automatically come to help him. And they would be able to see Krishna as a devotee.

Hearing that the Horse made captive, Arjun came into war with the son of the King,Hansadhaja.

But Arjun could not defeat him.Being afraid, he remembered Krishna for to save him . Krishna then appeared on his chariot. After seeing Krishna Arjuna began fighting in full speed. At one time Arjuna threw an arrow towards the chariot of Hansadhaja. As a result the chariot went back to ten jujana (1 jujana = 8 miles or about 10 kilometres). Arjuna felt proud himself and said to Krishna about his success. Krishna could understand the pride of Arjuna. Then He said, let me leave chariot and see how you can maintain your status . Krishna did so. At this time Hansadhaja threw an arrow towards the chariot of Arjuna. As a result the chariot went back to 80 jujanas(about 680 Kilometers). Arjun now came to his senses and beg pardon to Krishna for his pride. Krishna again became the driver of the Arjun's chariot. War was going on. None could defeat the other. At one time Arjun told Krishna that in the great war of Kurukshetra I killed many mighty warriors by the grace of your help. But why I am not capable of killing / or defeating this young warrior? At one time Arjuna promised in front of Krishna that I aim throwing an arrow so that it cuts the head of Hansadhaja. Hearing this Hansadhaja also promised that he will cut the arrow of Arjuna into two pieces . Arjun now threw his arrow at Hansadhaja and the latter also threw another arrow to cut the arrow of Arjuna. Alas! the arrow of Hansadhaja had cut the arrow of Arjuna into two pieces. Arjuna became very ashamed as well as feared. Seeing his nervousness the supreme personality of Godhead Krishna used his power on the half arrow and automatically, rose and went towards the neck of Hansadhaja and cut the same. Then Krishna, ordered Gaururdeva to collect the whole body of Hansa dhaja and throw into the Prayag Tiritha(a place where Ganges,Yamuna and Swaraswati river meet each other). In the meantime Sadashiva ordered this strong fellow Nandi to bring the body of Hansadhaja. Nandi has the power of spreading any parts of his body whatsoever. Gaururdev was carrying the body of Hansadhaja towards Prayaga. And Nandi was following him. At the moment Garurdeva threw the body Nandi spread his hands and catched the body.Nandi brought the body to Sada-Shiva. Sada Shiva then was dancing to see this. He then added the bones of Hansadhaja in His garland and kept the scalp of the head to drink water and so on.